

DISCOVERY

The Development of Combat Power and Efficiency

Vol. 27, No. 15 - Friday, Aug. 15, 2003 - Brooks City-Base, Texas

BROOKS
CITY-BASE
A Technology and Business Center



Through the Many Facets of Aerospace Medicine

Brooks oral history debut completes MOA plan

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

The recent distribution of an interactive oral history CD-Rom of the former Brooks Air Force Base completes the final requirement outlined in a Memorandum of Agreement signed by federal, state and municipal stakeholders last year.

The CD chronicles the history of the base from its inception as Brooks Field in 1917 to its conversion to Brooks City-Base in 2002. It features oral interviews with former and current Brooks employees who shared relevant anecdotal information relating to Brooks history.

"The Institute of Texan Cultures produced it as part of the MOA that transferred the historical properties of the base to the City of San Antonio on May 14, 2002," said Hamid Kamalpour, 311th Human Systems Wing environmental engineer and CD project officer.

Kamalpour said the CD was the last of four stipulations that was agreed to by the MOA signatories that included the Air Force, State of Texas, City of San Antonio and the Brooks Development Authority. The San Antonio Conservation Society and the Brooks Heritage Foundation concurred with the MOA stipulations.

These stipulations, Kamalpour explained, included preparation of the

History, Page 4

INSIDE



AFMC commander leaves behind a few thoughts

Page 6



New MEO chief rides for Air Force

Page 17



Photo by Staff Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez Jr.

Into the ranks

311th Human Systems Wing Command Chief Master Sgt. Rich Hollins recites the senior noncommissioned officer creed with 10 of the newest Brooks SNCOs during the base's first SNCO

induction ceremony at the Brooks Club Aug. 7. The formal ceremony celebrated the achievements of the outstanding NCOs who took the next step in their Air Force careers, induction into the SNCO corps.

WMD first responders get training from AF team

By Rita Boland

Staff Writer

The Air Force Weapons of Mass Destruction First Responders Program employs Air Force and civilian agency personnel to travel to Air Force Bases worldwide, teaching military and civilian communities to respond to a full spectrum of events, including incidents involving the terrorist use of Weapons of Mass Destruction.

A team of Air Force subject matter experts, including one from Brooks, and staff from Texas A&M University, assess capabilities, develop plans, provide training and assist base personnel with developing and conducting exercises.

The First Responders Program brings together medical personnel, security forces and civil engineers for a unified response.

Texas A&M University provides a variety of expertise and resources, including a \$200,000 human patient simulator that responds to treatment in real time and can be programmed to mimic the effects of Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and High-Yield Explosive events.

“It’s training our first responders to be better prepared to respond to Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and High-Yield Explosive events.”

Master Sgt. Joseph Weston
WMD First Responder Training Team member

High-Yield Explosive incidents. Any medical treatment, from IV drugs to oxygen therapy, evokes an appropriate response from the mannequin, and if the medics make the wrong choice, the patient “dies.”

The team visits a site three times, and will eventually visit every installation in the Air Force, to help develop response plans and conduct classes and exercises with necessary personnel.

During the first visit, the team

assesses the location for its resources and needs. The team and local personnel build the exercise plan during the second visit and training and exercises are conducted during the final visit.

“It’s training our first responders to be better prepared to respond to Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and High-Yield Explosive events,” said Master Sgt. Joseph Weston of the Development Center for Operational Medicine at Brooks and a member of the team.

The exercises don’t just focus on terrorist attacks, but cover the whole CBRNE spectrum of events, from a dirty bomb to a derailed train carrying radioactive material, to a disease outbreak, such as smallpox.

Weston recently returned to Brooks from Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, where the team conducted the latest exercise. The entire process is usually completed in three to four months, but a typhoon hit Guam in December, pushing the exercises back to June.

The team has three main goals:

See CBRNE, Page 3



The *Discovery* is published by **Prime Time Inc.**, a private firm in no way connected with the United States Air Force, under exclusive contract with Brooks City-Base, Texas.

This commercial enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the military services. Contents of the *Discovery* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the United States Government, the Department of Defense or the United States Air Force.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts and supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force or **Prime Time Corp.** of the products or services advertised.

Everything in this publication is edited, prepared and provided by the 311th Human Systems Wing Public Affairs Office of Brooks City-Base. Material for the *Discovery* should be typewritten, double-spaced and submitted to 311HSW/PA, 2510 Kennedy Circle, Brooks City-Base, TX 78235-5115 by noon the Wednesday prior to the week of publication. All photos are Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated. Articles may also be submitted by fax by calling 536-3235 or by e-mail.

Articles may be submitted by e-mail to: Cerise.Shapiro@brooks.af.mil or to: Discovery@brooks.af.mil.

The *Discovery* is published every other week on Friday. Contact the editor at 536-5141 for more information.

Discovery advertising

Deadline for display advertising is noon the Friday preceding the publication date. To advertise in the *Discovery*, call 675-4500 or send advertising copy to **Prime Time Military Newspapers, P.O. Box 27040, San Antonio, Texas 78227.**

Discovery Editorial Staff:

311th Human Systems Wing Commander

Col. Tom Travis

Director of Public Affairs

Larry Farlow

Editor

Cerise Shapiro

(cerise.shapiro@brooks.af.mil)

Staff Writer

Rita Boland

Photography

Tech. Sgt. Anita Schroeder

Staff Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez Jr.

Senior Airman Brandy Bogart

Airman 1st Class Samantha Shieh

Discovery logo by Arlene Schirmer



Sylvia Black, Publisher
Pia Goodman, Prod. Mgr.
Pat McCain, Classified Mgr.
Diane Bohl, Sales Manager
Sherry Snoga, Account Exec.
John Randall, Account Exec.
Karen Edge, Account Exec.

Advertising
(210) 675-4500
FAX:
(210) 675-4577
E-mail:
sblack@txdirect.net

William A. Johnson
President
Robert L. Jones II
Chief Operating Officer
Gregg R. Rosenfield
Senior Vice President Sales and Marketing

Community Newspapers:

North San Antonio Times — Northside Recorder
Bulverde Community News — Southside Reporter
The Herald

Military Newspapers:

Fort Sam Houston News Leader
Lackland Talespinner — Kelly USA Observer
Medical Patriot — Randolph Wingspread
Brooks Discovery

Specialty Publications:

Daily Commercial Recorder — Que Pasa!
S.A.Kids

Graphics & Printing Services:

Prime Time Graphics
Christopher Press (Web printing)

Commentary

A crime prevention tip—start with common sense

By Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey Wheeler

311th Security Forces Squadron

Ever wonder how the majority of thefts occur? Criminals never pass up easy opportunities. What I'm getting at is property being left unsecured or unattended. The criminal may as well have owned it to begin with, since the owner isn't worried about it.

Just recently, two vehicles were stolen at Brooks. We see everything from vehicles left running and unattended, windows left down all day and unsecured vehicles with the keys in the ignition to vehicles left unattended overnight in different areas on base. One day your vehicle is there, the next day it's gone! If you plan on leaving your vehicle on base overnight or for an extended period, make sure it's locked up and notify the Security Forces and base security. If possible, have someone pick up your vehicle and drive it home for you so it's

not left for potential thieves looking for easy targets.

The mentality of some people is, "I always leave my vehicle unlocked when I'm on base."

Imagine how easy it would be for a criminal to take someone's unsecured vehicle, with the keys already in it. The criminal not only has your vehicle, but if the vehicle is registered on any base, has free access to that base with the help of the registration decal. Unsecured vehicles may also provide great hiding places for explosive devices.

Security is everyone's responsibility, not just the Security Forces, Base Security, or the San Antonio Police Department.

Despite how slow or uneventful our stay at Brooks may seem, we are still at an increased Force Protection condition, not back to normal. As a team, we need to be vigilant and work together to protect our Air Force and personal resources before we don't have them anymore.

The threat will always be there, waiting for the moment to strike. Complacency is a weakness the enemy will use as a strength. Take note of some reality checks and learn from them: Oklahoma City bombing, Khobar Towers, the U.S. Embassy bombings and the Twin Towers.

AFMC commander thanks Reservists' for contributions

By Gen. Lester Lyles

Commander, Air Force Materiel Command

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFMCNS) — Our Air Force Materiel Command Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve warriors are having a tremendous impact on our ability to successfully accomplish the mission.

We in AFMC have embraced the Total Force concept and have more than 660 reservists supporting the Global War on Terrorism and providing unprecedented capabilities to the warfighter.

I recently received a report documenting more than 50 outstanding achievements of our Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve airmen. These remarkable contributions are prime examples of why America's warfighters know AFMC people deliver Proactive Rapid Integrated Dominant Effects — PRIDE. Let me provide just a few vignettes to highlight our team's significant accomplishments.

Take Maj. Darryl Sanchez for example. He is an IMA assigned to the boost-phase ballistic missile defense program with the Airborne Laser Technologies Branch at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M. He made what industry experts said is the most important innovation in the Airborne Laser industry in 10 years.

He designed and developed two novel techniques for improving the Track Illuminator performance. That is the Airborne Laser's aiming system. This led to a 40 percent improvement in tracking accuracy.

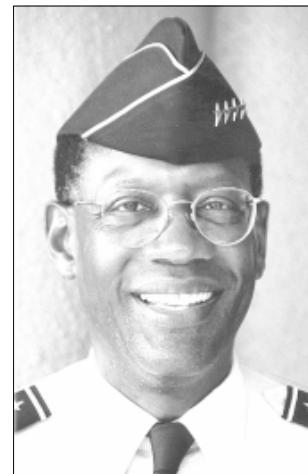
Sanchez is currently leading the eight-man team that is preparing this technology for incorporation in the 2008 ABL aircraft.

When the 412th Test Wing deputy operations group commander at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., received short-notice permanent-change-of-station orders, another IMA came to the rescue. Lt. Col. Victoria Babb volunteered to fill this essential position until a qualified active-duty replacement could be found.

She used her years of flight test experience to oversee all aspects of the group's operational engineering. Her efforts ensured flawless continuity in staffing, training and budget requirements, as well as test packages and safety reports.

Yet another IMA designed and implemented a program that gives military and civilian engineers first-hand, operations-oriented experience. Lt. Col. Mark Koch, an IMA assigned to Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., worked with the 33rd Operations Support Squadron and the 85th Test and Evaluation Squadron to create a program that combined both briefings and simulator flights to help our researchers and designers better understand the warfighter's needs and limitations.

Tech. Sgt. Richard Keabler, an IMA with the 88th Security Forces Squadron at Wright-Patterson Air



Gen. Lyles

Force Base, is another example. He recently saved an accident victim's life with no regard for his own safety.

Getting help from a by-stander at the accident scene, Keabler pried the wrecked car's door open and removed a semi-conscious victim from the burning vehicle. He then performed emergency CPR, saving the victim's life.

Another enlisted reservist, Master Sgt. Matthew McDonald, saved the experts at the Aerospace Maintenance and Regeneration Center at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz., nearly 60 manhours of overtime by inventoring 11 of the center's tool cabinets, accounting for more than 8,000 tools

and identifying discrepancies and monetary losses. Additionally, he built 10 flightline tool kits, making sure A-10 wing refurb program contract field team workers had the necessary tools to produce airworthy A-10 wings for future reinstallation.

And Senior Master Sgt. Myron Cutrell transformed the Warner Robins Air Logistic Center's C-130 directorate parts storage area at Robins Air Force Base, Ga., into a first-rate, highly organized facility. He constructed all new storage racks, organized parts by aircraft and computerized storage locations for easy identification.

His initiatives significantly improved tracking and accessibility for more than \$10 million worth of C-130 parts. And if that wasn't enough, he also wrote and coordinated new branch maintenance operating instructions to make sure parts were stored safely and securely.

And finally, our reservists are able to serve because other great Americans, their employers, are willing to make whatever sacrifices are required to ensure NO ONE COMES CLOSE to our great Air Force.

Maj. Tony Johnston, for example, serves as AFMC's Air and Space Expeditionary Force reporting tool manager at Wright-Patterson. He has a doctorate degree in Enology and Viticulture and is an associate professor in the School of Agri-Business and Agri-Science at Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro, Tenn.

What makes his story so compelling is Tony serves because his employer has gone above and beyond to make every possible accommodation and to engineer workarounds for core and prerequisite courses that Dr. Johnston ordinarily teaches.

Our warrior reservists have risen to the occasion and augmented the AFMC workforce whenever called upon. Along with our talented and dedicated active-duty officers, enlisted members and civilians, our Reserve corps truly makes AFMC "One Force, One Team." And to you all, I say a heart-felt "Thank you!"



CBRNE

Continued from Page 1

increase military and civilian awareness of WMD incident management and unified command; improve medical WMD response; and implement training courses and concepts to enhance installation WMD response.

"(Our goal) is getting all response agencies on base to integrate their capabilities," Weston said.

In addition, the team tries to include civilian response agencies in the process, so military installations and surrounding communities can work together.

"We're not restricted to military," Weston said. "We want cooperation and interaction with the civilian community."

Most incidents would affect the military and civilian communities. By creating integrated response plans and agreements, the program ensures all responders are operating as one.

"The gas plume isn't going to stop at the gate," Weston said. "As the Air Force base becomes better prepared, the community as a whole becomes better prepared."

In Guam, the team ran an exercise involving smallpox, where base personnel found an infected person dead in her home, while civilian responders dealt with a case of their own at the same time. The scenarios allowed the two entities to work together.

"Medics don't see the patients until they're decontaminated," Weston said.

By the time emergency teams arrive on-scene, some victims will have already fled and will most likely head to a medical facility. Once facilities get word of the event, medical decontamination units are set up outside



Courtesy photo

Air Force medics train with U.S. Naval and civilian personnel on a full spectrum of events, including incidents involving terrorist use of Weapons of Mass Destruction to develop better response capabilities.

the treatment facility, and doors are locked to avoid infecting the hospital.

"If the facility becomes contaminated, it's no longer viable," Weston said. Standardized decontamination training ensures personnel Air Force-wide are learning the same procedures. This will carry from base to base as members transfer.

"Now that we've standardized equipment and response they can send out more subject matter experts because everyone has the same guidance and training," Weston said.

The WMD First Responders Program completed exercises at McChord Air Force Base, Wash., and Peterson AFB, Colo.

Currently a team is working with Ramstein Air Base, Germany. The pilot program has 11 bases but is already expanding to the remaining active and Reserve bases worldwide.

Rita.Boland@brooks.af.mil

Brooks Selectees

The following Brooks senior airmen were selected for promotion to staff sergeant. The list is broken down by organization:

**To Staff Sgt:
68th Information Operations Squadron**

Randy Blevins
Michael Chacon
Robert Elbrecht
Nicholaus Jackson
Ryan Madison
John Myers
Kristen Oberdick
Ernest Regaldo

311th Communications Squadron

Brandy Bogart
John Lopez
Kathleen Perez

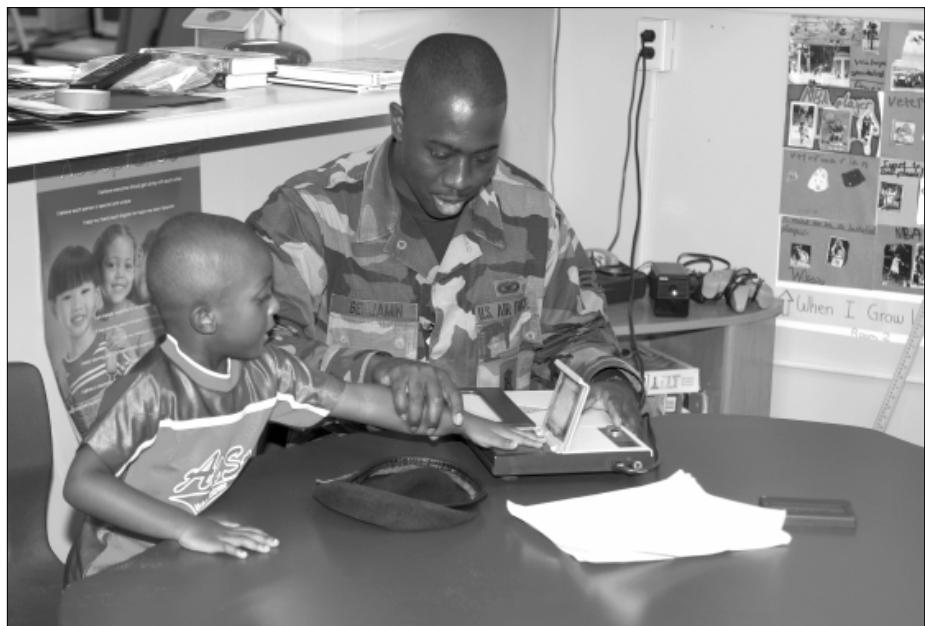
Air Force Research Laboratory
Kristina Brown

311th Security Forces
Christopher Roberson

Air Force Institute for Operational Health
Patrick Chernay
Chandra Crawley
Irene Folsom
Gael Gauthier
Dana Tufu Stroman

311th Medical Squadron
Victoria Forant

U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine
Mantangi Johnson
Tasha Klotzman
Shakira Ramos
Sunny Siler


Photo by Staff. Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez Jr.

National night out

311th Security Forces Squadron officers participated in Brooks' celebration of the 20th Annual National Night Out Against Crime at the Youth Center Aug. 5 by fingerprinting Brooks youth. Children were also able to get picture identification cards made. Other events during the celebration included a visit from McGruff the Crime Dog, a clown, free food and entertainment informational briefings to promote crime and drug prevention and encourage personal and home safety. The local event encourages Brooks families to spend an evening meeting neighbors and community supporters in a family-oriented, crime-free environment.

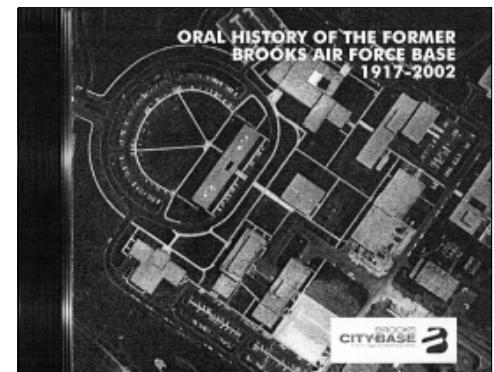
History

Continued from Page 1

City of San Antonio landmark application for Hangar 9, Bldg. 538 and the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine's 100-Area Historic District; implementation of a Historic American Building Survey; and the development and publication of the Maintenance and Management Manual for Selected Historic Properties at Brooks City-Base.

Alvin Brown, 311th HSW Environmental Branch chief, wrote in a letter dated July 28, 2003: "We prepared the CD-Rom as part of our commitment to preserve Brooks AFB's important history, as outlined in the MOA we signed in 2002, regarding the conveyance of the former Brooks AFB properties eligible for our listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The purpose of the CD-Rom is to educate the public about the fascinating and critical scientific contributions to our nation's space program accomplished here at the former Brooks AFB."

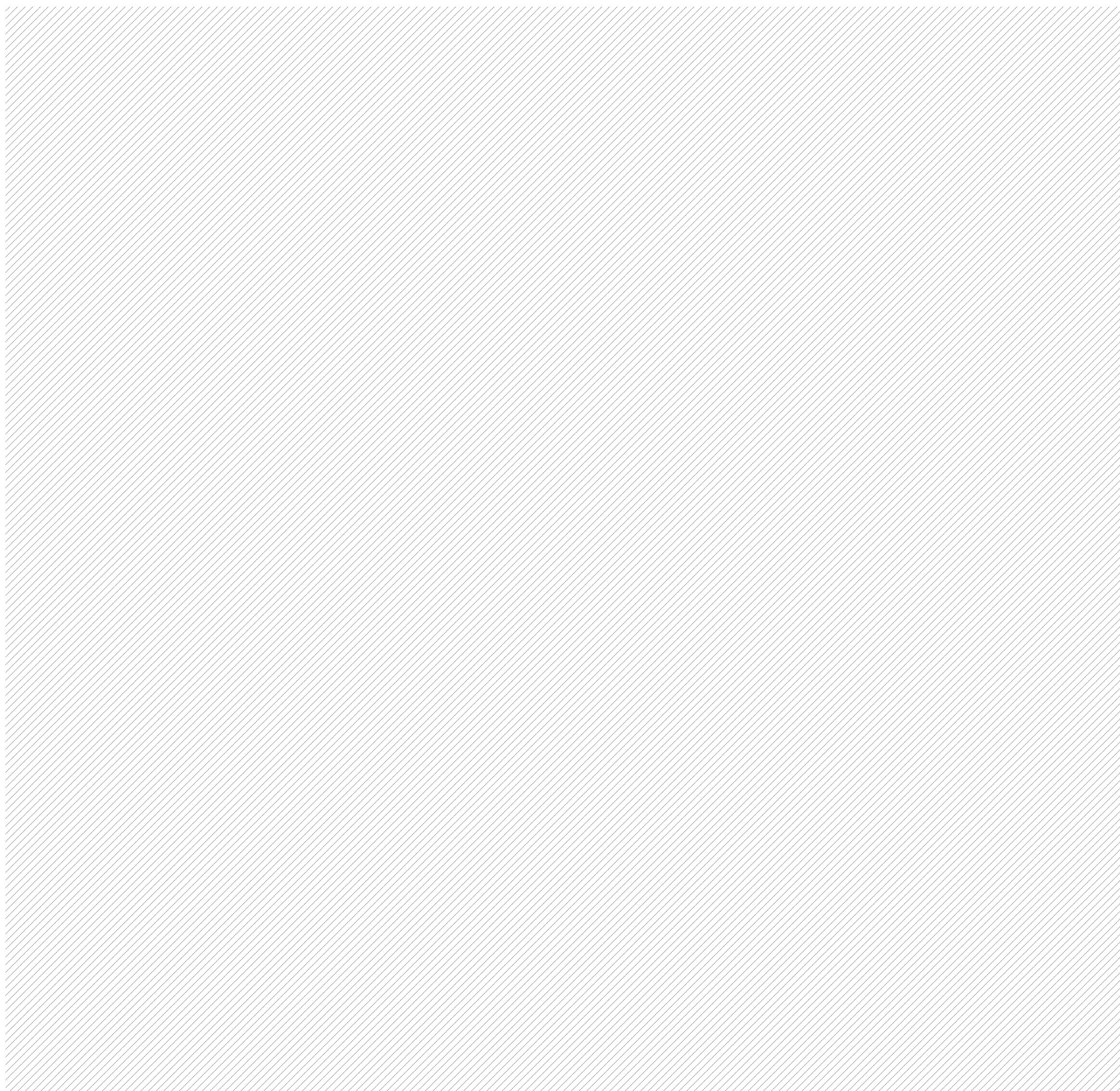
Brown noted that the CD-Rom may be duplicated and sold to recover the labor and material costs to produce it. He said that under the MOA's terms,



An aerial view of the officially designated USAFSAM 100-area Historic District serves as the cover design for the new oral history CD-Rom of the former Brooks Air Force Base.

the CD-Rom can not be sold for profit.

Kamalpour said about 100 CDs have been initially produced, with the bulk of them distributed to the Brooks Heritage Foundation and the Institute of Texan Cultures. Others receiving copies of the CD include the Texas Historic Commission, Air Force Materiel Command's historian and civil engineer, the City of San Antonio and Brooks City-Base.





AFMC General talks of progress, future, challenges

By Tech Sgt. Carl Norman

AFMC Public Affairs

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFMCNS) — Air Force Materiel Command's top leader hangs up his blue uniform Aug. 22, ending more than three decades of Air Force service.

Effective communication, taking care of people and whole-hearted support to America's warfighter have been career-long themes for Gen. Lester Lyles, AFMC commander. As the general readies himself and the command for a change in leadership, he offered a few thoughts:

Q Under your leadership, what do you think have been the most significant accomplishments AFMC has made?

Gen. Lyles: Since our number one mission is to support the warfighter, I think one of our major accomplishments is making sure everything we do, whether it's in science and technology, research and development, sustainment or test, has the warfighter's requirements and warfighter's needs number one in our minds and focus.

I've tried to instill greater communication between us, our organizations, our people and the major commands. My old, personal motto of communicate, communicate, communicate is very relevant to this area. I think putting processes into place, putting organizational link-ups into place and in some cases putting key people into positions to stimulate that communication and to institutionalize it, has been the number one intangible thing I've tried to do - to set that as part of our culture in this command.

The other is to ensure that we don't get so focused on the business aspect that we forget that we have a major role in supporting the warfighting mission. Our business initiatives are extremely important, but we have to blend and balance those with getting the mission accomplished for the warfighter. Those sort of culture changes are what I've tried to instill during my period here.

Q What do you believe will be the most significant challenges for this command in the next few years?

Gen. Lyles: There are two or three I think will be extremely significant. The first is to stay on guard and stay focused on the transformation initiatives we are currently working. It's always tempting, particularly when a new commander or new boss comes along, to think or say, "OK, we did those things because of him or her, now we have a new person so let's go back to doing business as usual and wait until we get the new person's guidance."

I think we have unanimity in the leadership here in the command today that the things we're working on are the right things for the command for the future, and we can't stray from that. We have to give these things an opportunity to succeed even though we know some of them are going to take a long time to actually show payoff. We're agreed that they are the right things to do, so staying on focus is going to be the first challenge, not wavering even when people change at leadership positions.

The second challenge is keeping our customer completely involved in everything we do. Again, it's very important that we communicate what we're doing



“I wish I would have had the opportunity to shake the hand and thank every one the command's 80,000 plus members just to let them know how much I appreciate them.”

Gen. Lester Lyles
AFMC Commander

and why to the customer so they can help us and be part of the solution. It's part of the culture we need to instill in our command. We also need to ensure expeditionary culture is always part and parcel of what we do within Air Force Materiel Command.

I think the last challenge is not losing faith or being discouraged as we face the obvious things that are going to take place during the next couple years - some continued downsizing, BRAC. We have to make sure we don't get into the mentality of thinking the rest of the Air Force is picking on this command. Everybody is being treated exactly the same.

Leadership does understand and respect the people and the mission within Air Force Materiel Command. So, making sure that AFMC people feel that they're not second-class citizens will continue to be an extremely important challenge during the next few years.

Q In your opinion, what are the top initiatives, practices and attitudes of AFMC people that define the characteristics of this organization - that determine who AFMC is?

Gen. Lyles: Our initiative that started off being called Year of the Family is now being institutionalized to make it a regular part of our personnel process. It looked at investments, modest although they may be, and initiatives to support our family members. That includes people in the command itself - military, civilian and the contractors who work for us. Continuing that Year of the Family initiative, I think, is one process that will help us continuously. The second is the enterprise approach that we've instilled for ensuring we are integrating interoperable capabilities, integrating air and space capabilities, that we look at everything in terms of integrated operations and no longer stovepiped activities. The enterprise approach was praised recently by the chief of staff and it's going to be the way we do business all the time now. A third is the sustainment focus we have, particularly the initiatives coming out of DMRT — depot maintenance re-engineering and transformation. This will continue to set us on the right course for years to come. Part of that is our long-range strategic plan for our depots and the investments the corporate Air Force is putting in to the tune of \$150 million a year to modernize and ensure that our depots are world class.

Those to me are the top things that

we've started and will continue for some time. They will change the nature of how we do business for many years to come.

Q What feedback have you gotten about AFMC from other commands?

Gen. Lyles: Very positive, in general. There are specific criticisms from time to time, and we've taken those criticisms and critiques and worked to improve, or to make sure the customer understands what impediments exist. Communication is again a very important part of that particular element. But by and large, the feedback I've gotten from the major commands, the chief of staff and secretary has been very laudatory of this command. For instance, coming after Operation Iraqi Freedom, we heard from the commander of the air forces, Lt. Gen. "Buzz" Mosely, who is about to become our new Air Force vice chief of staff. His words are extremely complimentary. He said everything worked well, everything was sustained well and that new innovations, new ideas and new systems were introduced very quickly.

Q You've been a real people person during your tenure as commander, strongly emphasizing communication. Why is that so important and what benefits does it have to being successful?

Gen. Lyles: Everything starts with people. All the quotes like "people are our most important product" and "if you take care of the people, they'll take care of the mission," are exactly true. When we take care of people and let them know we care for them, we understand them and we're listening to them, that we're trying to work their needs while they're trying to work the service's and mission's needs, that makes for the kind of environment that stimulates people and their innovation.

Q Other than communicating and keeping people informed, what do you think it takes to make people successful in life?

Gen. Lyles: The word communication is a very good one, because I always have to remind people, and myself, that communication is a two-way street. It's more than just keeping people informed; the other part of that equation is listening. It's the old adage that communication is transmit and receive. If we're always transmitting, that's the old way of doing things. We've got to receive also, listen to people and respond to their concerns in any way we possibly can. Sometimes that response is a denial of what people may ask for or think they need, but until you're listening to them and you can understand what their needs are then let them know that you're at least interested in working them to find a solution, you haven't completed the communication loop. You've got to listen to the people in addition to broadcasting. The other part of that is good ideas. Everybody knows that good ideas don't always start from the top. They really come in a wide variety of ways — everybody can be a contributor to try to make something better. To me that's very important.

Q What has made you successful?

Gen. Lyles: A lot of blessing and a lot of good luck, to be honest. I also have a very supportive family. I dare say that I think I see this in a lot of leaders but not necessarily in everybody. Both my wife and my kids are not just tolerant of the things I've had to do and the time away from home and all the travel, but understanding. I'd even say they're proud of what their dad and husband has accomplished. To me they are a part of the reason I've been able to do the things I've been able to do. Great bosses and mentors are also critical to success. Some people think mentoring is establishing a buddy-buddy relationship with

someone. But mentoring can be one word of advice, one word of guidance, one pat on the back at a strategic time. I've had situations where I've had those one-time events from people you probably wouldn't think fit the normal definition of a mentor, but those pieces of advice, guidance and counsel or a pat on the back came at times that really helped set me straight or guide me where I needed to go. So mentors, both one-time and steady, have been another major reason why I've been very fortunate.

Q What would you like to tell the command about Gen. Martin?

Gen. Lyles: I am extremely excited for the command and what I think the opportunities are going to be with Gen. "Speedy" Martin on board. He has a charismatic personality. He's fun-loving, brilliant and he brings a perspective to the command that I couldn't bring — the operational perspective. He will look at things with his operational hat on that most of us who have spent most of our careers in this command could not begin to imagine or think of. I just know there are going to be some exciting things and exciting times with his different perspective looking at the command and shaping it for the future. He's a brilliant leader and people will enjoy working with him. I see only great things for Air Force Materiel Command under his leadership.

Q What words do you have for people, who may be considering the Air Force as either a military or civilian career?

Gen. Lyles: The number one message I convey to people, besides educating them on who and what we are and what we do, is that this is an exciting organization. We are the Air Force's scientists, the Air Force's engineers; we are the Air Force's innovators when it comes to technology and capabilities.

I give people examples of the innovation, new technologies and other things we're involved in, but I also emphasize the business nature of what we do, the stewardship of the taxpayers' dollars and our core values in the Air Force - integrity, service and excellence.

The bottom line is this is a great organization to be a part of, both the Air Force and specifically this command, and we're looking for people to bring into our ranks, both military and civilians.

Q Who would you like for people in the Air Force and around the DoD to remember Gen. Lyles as being?

Gen. Lyles: That's always hard to answer. People have always refer to me as being a "nice guy." Nice can be a four-letter word, by the way, because to some people nice implies soft, it implies weakness, it implies that you think with your heart more than with your mind.

I guess if there's one thing I'd like to remember for, it's the word nice, which I find to be complimentary, but nice and fair, coupled with leadership. To me you don't have to have one or the other. I think you can combine niceness with good leadership. I hope that people remember me for a balance of the two.

Q Any final message for the men and women of AFMC?

Gen. Lyles: I have been honored and blessed to have the opportunity to serve with the men and women of Air Force Materiel Command and to lead them where I could. I can't think of any finer set of individuals, in every aspect, than our civilians, our uniformed members and our contracting community that supports us. It has truly been an honor to have been in this position.

I wish I would have had the opportunity to shake the hand and thank every one the command's 80,000 plus members just to let them know how much I appreciate them. I will miss this tremendous honor of being part of them.



ACTIONLINE

536-2222



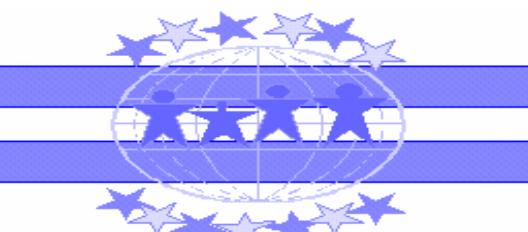
The COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE is your opportunity to make Brooks a better place to live, work and play.

If you have a suggestion for improvement, a complaint or a problem that you have not been able to resolve through normal complaint channels or the chain of command, call the COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE, 536-2222.

Only items of general interest will be published, so please leave your name and number for a personal response.

The base agencies listed below can be contacted directly:

311th Security Forces Squadron.....	536-2851
SFS afterduty hours.....	536-2851
311th Civil Engineer Squadron.....	536-3861
311th Communications Squadron.....	536-6571
311th Mission Support Group Logistics Division.....	536-3541
Safety.....	536-2111
Housing Maintenance.....	533-4100
Housing Office.....	536-1840
311th Services Division.....	536-2545
311th Medical Squadron (Clinic).....	536-4715
Military Personnel.....	536-1845
Civilian Personnel.....	536-3353
Military Pay.....	536-5778
Civilian Pay.....	536-8370
I.G. (FWA).....	536-2358
Military Equal Opportunity.....	536-2584
EEO Complaints.....	536-3702
BXMarket.....	533-9079
Brooks Development Office.....	536-3655
Brooks City-Base Marketing and Development Office.....	536-5366



Brooks Family Support Center activities

Call 536-2444
for information or to register

Transition assistance

Aug. 19-21, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Bldg. 537—
Making the transition from military to civilian can be a big undertaking. This seminar allows us to better serve separating and retiring members and their spouses. Topics include job search preparation, resume writing, interviewing skills, including appropriate dress, veteran's benefits, and more. Members should plan to attend at least 180 days prior to retirement/separation. Call 536-2444, or toll free 877-747-5938 for more information.

Resume workshop

Sept. 2, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Bldg. 537—
Learn the different resume styles and how to write and use them effectively to open career opportunities. Learn the dos and don'ts of resume development, and how to develop cover and thank you letters.

Smooth move

Aug. 28, 12:30 - 3 p.m., Bldg. 537—
PCSing? Hear briefings from travel, legal, the clinic, finance, housing and the Family Support Center and ask your questions. The seminar is open to all active duty members, DoD civilians and spouses.

PCS overseas

Aug. 28, 3 - 4 p.m., Bldg. 537—
Any move can be stressful, but an overseas move has its own set of challenges and opportunities. Learn more about your OCONUS PCS by attending the Smooth Move seminar and staying after for this class.

Money smart series

Sept. 3 - Oct. 8, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Bldg. 537—
This series of brown bag seminars provides general consumer information on laws that protect consumers. Learn the laws that protect your rights as a banking consumer, ways to avoid scams, protecting your identity and how to resolve complaints regarding bank accounts. Attend one, some or all of the seminars that interest you. The classes include: Borrowing Basics, Money Matters, Check it Out, Charge it Right, To Your Credit and Loan to Own. Call the Family Support Center for specific details and class schedules.

Car buying

Sept. 8, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Bldg. 537—
A vehicle is one of the largest purchases most people ever make. Learn the best sources of free information, how to budget before you purchase, compare financing versus leasing, and learn how to get the best deal.



First USPHS, third South Korean attend course at SAM

By Rita Boland

Staff Writer

The U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine broke new ground and firmed up old allegiances during its most recent flight nurse course.

Four members of the U. S. Public Health Service Division of Immigration attended the flight nurse course for the first time, to hone their skills for the removal of illegal immigrants. Many of the immigrants whom USPHS deports need medical care on the flight to their home country.

USPHS accompanied Elian Gonzalez on his transports, ensuring his medical stability during his return to his father.

Cmdr. Jacinto Garrido, the director of the USPHS immigrant removal program, researched training options available for his troops and decided upon the training at USAFSAM.

"It all lead to the Air Force," Garrido said. "The Air Force is the leader in aeroevac and flight medicine."

Before sending students to the flight nurse class, Garrido attended it in February to examine the course content. "I like to do what I send people to do," he said.

The medical escort program at USPHS is in its infancy. Only Garrido has permanent assignment to the program, though he hopes with this training to gain more full-time personnel. USPHS



Photo by Rita Boland

Lt. Cmdr. Victoria Vachon, front and Lt. j.g. Jamie Ruddy, both of the U.S. Public Health Service, reconfigure the C-9 mock-up at the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine during a flight nurse course. Vachon, Ruddy and two colleagues were the first USPHS students to attend a flight nurse course.

pulls personnel out of their regular jobs to fly a removal mission.

Since Sept. 11, the number of removals of illegal immigrants rose dramatically. Last fiscal year, Immigration removed 90 people. This fiscal year, the number is already 175.

The jump in missions sparked the need for better training for flight nurses. USPHS students all gave the class high marks and rated altitude physiology, stress training, teamwork, and critical thinking skills among the most important aspects of the course.

"(The instructors) have been outstanding," said Lt. Cmdr. Victoria Vachon. "It exceeded my expectations."

Students also said they had no problem fitting in with the more traditional military members of the class.

"A lot of us USPHS are ex-military," said Lt. j. g. Ron Pinheiro. "There were no problems."

The Air Force and USAFSAM also benefited from the program. According to USAFSAM officials, the Air Force can build partnerships with other branches of the uniformed services, and better serve the military in future missions.

"We certainly want to broaden our horizons," said Maj. Greg Cook, flight nurse course director at SAM. "This is really the ground floor of this program."

According to another student, Lt. j.g. Jamie Ruddy, USPHS already works with other branches, mostly the Coast Guard, and could fly aeroevacuation missions with the Air National Guard or Air Force in case of a real emergency.

The next group of USPHS students will

attend the flight nurse course in August.

Another unique student also attended the latest flight nurse course, Capt. Ji Ah Jeong of the South Korean Air Force. Jeong, the third South Korean to participate in the class, plans to use the knowledge she acquired to help expand the program in her home country.

"We're developing aeroevacuation system step by step," Jeong said. "I have to learn about this system."

South Korea began developing their flight nurse program in 1993. Of 35 flight nurses in South Korea, Jeong ranks fifth highest. "I had to pass a test to be here," Jeong said.

Both the U.S. and South Korea fly C-130 aircraft and hope the shared training will make joint military operations easier.

"Korea has a good relationship with America," Jeong said. "Maybe we have to work together."

South Korea sends its flight nurses here because the U.S. is the world leader in air medicine. "America is preceding the other countries," Jeong said. She also said South Korea plans to send more military to the U.S. to further develop their aeroevacuation program, a plan the Air Force encourages.

"(We're) trying to bring more international students in," Cook said. "Shame on us if we don't train with these people."

Joint training between different U.S. uniformed service branches and other countries is essential for the new wars the world faces.

"I think that it's essential for our new mission," Ruddy said. "This is the way the world works today. This type of training is essential...this is the new reality."

Rita.Boland@brooks.af.mil



USAFSAM, RAF begin instructor exchange

By Rita Boland

Staff Writer

The U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine and the Royal Air Force began sharing instructors and training information in July.

USAFSAM and the Tactical Medical Wing of the RAF both teach flight nursing and aeromedical evacuation techniques as part of their training and in June members of the TMW visited USAFSAM to compare training tactics. At the end of June and beginning of July, USAFSAM personnel returned the visit, examining two sites in the United Kingdom.

"From that visit we discovered we had a lot in common," said Maj. Greg Cook, USAFSAM's flight nurse director.

TMW personnel were interested in the training tools used by the school, especially the detailed aircraft mock-ups like the C-130, a plane used by the U.S. Air Force and the RAF.

"They have the same problems we do, trying to get air-

frames for students," Cook said.

USAFSAM wanted to expose their students to RAF procedures, because the two countries work together during many military operations. For longer flights, the medical crews wouldn't work on one another's aircraft with mixed crews, but in-theater, and especially in combat, the medics can work side-by-side. "We go to war together, we fly together, so dagnamit we should train together," Cook said.

Sgt. Belinda Pearce, senior aeromedical evacuation instructor for the RAF, the first instructor to participate in the exchange program, attended the course that ran from July 7 to Aug. 4. While she spent most of her time observing, she did teach various segments of the course.

"Even some of our phraseology is exactly the same," Pearce said.

The similarities in training and procedures facilitated the instructor exchange program.

"That's the beauty of this, the similarities that we



Photo by Rita Boland

Sgt. Belinda Pearce, of the Royal Air Force, Maj. Greg Cook, center, and Master Sgt. Cornelio Perez, of the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine, adjust equipment on the C-130 mock-up at the school. Pearce is the first instructor to participate in a new exchange program between the RAF and USAFSAM.

share," said Master Sgt. Cornelio Perez, the course supervisor for aeromedical evacuation at USAFSAM.

Pearce returned to the UK and will submit a report on her experience to her superiors. Two instructors from USAFSAM may attend a RAF course later this year.

"This has got far reaching impact," Cook said.

A major difference between the two programs' structures is how crews form. In the U.S., flight crews are a team that work together continually. In the UK, nurses and technicians work in hospitals until they're called on and different crews form each mission. According to Pearce, U.S. mis-

sions have a larger scale and better training equipment.

"You've just got a lot more of what we haven't," Pearce said.

Both parties in the agreement share course documents and training tools. While neither expects a student exchange program in the future, they do hope to make training more uniform in the two countries. In addition, the medical allies form a closer, more personal bond.

"We've extended our aeromedical evacuation instructor family to include four peers from the United Kingdom," Cook said, referring to Pearce and her three colleagues who could potentially attend courses at USAFSAM.

Retiree Appreciation Day events honors retirees, remembers POW/MIA

Brook's Fourth Annual Retiree Appreciation Day is scheduled for 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Sept. 19 at Hangar 9. Retiree Appreciation Day is an opportunity to honor retired military members in the surrounding area for their dedication and significant contributions to the country.

In addition to recognizing their patriotism, the event is a reminder of Brooks mission and the services available to local retirees.

As in past years, the event is in conjunction with National POW/MIA Remembrance Day. This commemoration begins with the laying of a wreath at the base flagpole at reveille and continues with a formal table ceremony, along with the retiree activities, in Hanger 9 at 8:50 a.m. Also, sign up for the silent vigil at: <https://hswya2.brooks.af.mil/common/mil-gov/SilentVigil/SignUp.asp>.

Representatives from various on-base and community organizations will provide information about services available to Brooks. Look for a full schedule of events in the Sept. 12 Discovery.

For more information, contact retired Chief Master Sgt. Fred Dickinson in the Brooks Retiree Office at 536-2116.



Courtesy photo

Company Grade Officer's Council member 1st Lt. Tara Heintz pours milk for a meal at the St. Vincent DePaul food shelter in downtown San Antonio recently. Ten officers volunteered for the community service project, which involved preparing meals, serving patrons through the cafeteria-style line and cleaning up afterwards. The Brooks CGOC organizes community service opportunities at least monthly, alternating between the food shelter, visiting patients at the Veteran's Hospital and preparing meals for families at the Lackland Fisher House.



Welcome additions

The Brooks Chapel welcomes the newest additions to the staff. Chaplain Nelson Arroyo and Staff Sgt. Sarah Baggett, noncommissioned officer in charge.

Midweek mass

Midweek mass at the Brooks Chapel is held Thursdays at 11:30 a.m.

Mass is held each first Friday of the month and on holy days of obligation. Mass is open for the entire base Roman Catholic community. Call 536-3824 for details.

Lifebuilder's series

The Lifebuilder's Lunchtime Series is back in full swing. Lifebuilder's is held Wednesdays at noon at the Chapel Annex. Lunch is provided for a donation. The Lifebuilder's series is open to all base personnel. Contact the Chapel staff at 536-3824 for more information on themes or participation.

Chapel schedule:

Weekdays:

11:30 a.m. — Mass or Eucharistic service

Wednesdays:

noon — Lifebuilders luncheon

6 p.m. — Catholic choir rehearsal

Thursdays:

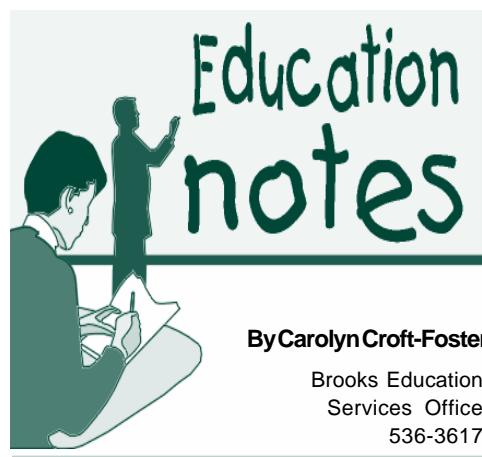
7:30 p.m. — Protestant choir rehearsal

Sundays:

9 a.m. — Catholic Mass

10:30 a.m. — Protestant Worship, includes children's church

The regular Chapel schedule resumes at the end of the summer.



By Carolyn Croft-Foster
Brooks Education Services Office
536-3617

Upper Iowa University

UIU offers classes at Brooks beginning in October. The university allows students to complete degrees through its Military Campus Resident Centers, on-line, or through external degree programs. The programs offered at Brooks include Bachelor of Science degrees in Business Administration, Public Administration, Technology and Information Management, Human Resource Management, Human Services and Management. Information pamphlets are available in the Education Office or visit the Upper Iowa Web site at: www.uiu.edu or call 536-3617. UIU has a Partnership Advantage Agreement with Palo Alto College.

Fall On-Base classes

Registration is underway for Fall 2003 classes with Palo Alto College. On-Base classes include History, Philosophy, Speech, Accounting, Supervision, Management, and Logistics. The state-required placement exam is offered Aug. 5 and Aug. 19. For more information or to schedule an appointment with the Alamo Community College District representative, please call 536-3617.

Embry-Riddle programs

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University offers Master of Aeronautical Science, Bachelor of Professional Aeronautics and Bachelor of Technical Management programs at Randolph Air Force Base. Plans are underway for a south-side teaching location in 2004. An Embry-Riddle representative will provide academic counseling sessions at the Brooks Education Office Wednesdays from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Interested individuals may call 659-0801 to schedule an appointment.

CLEP tests retire

The College Board is retiring paper-based CLEP tests. The following exams will be retired Nov. 30: General English, General Mathematics, Accounting, American History I and II, and Spanish. General Humani-

ties, General Biology, General Chemistry, German, and Western Civilization I and II. All remaining exams will be retired March 31, 2004. Computer-based CLEP exams are available but service members cannot currently request reimbursement. The Brooks Education Services Office offers CLEP testing Wednesdays at 5 p.m. and Fridays at 8 a.m. Call 536-3617 for additional information or to reserve a seat.

Virtual Education Center

The Air Force Virtual Education Center is online. Servicemembers can view information about Air Force Education Centers and the Community College of the Air Force. CCAF students can also order CCAF transcripts from the site. To access the AFVEC go to the following Web site and establish an account at: <https://afvec.langley.af.mil>. Call the Education Center at 536-3617 for details.

Discover online

The Discover Program is a career exploration program for individuals searching for a new career. This program is available for use by military members, civilians, and family members. For additional information, call 536-3617 to schedule an appointment to review the Web site and get started.

AWC Nonresident Seminar

Recruiting for the 2004 academic year for the Air War College Nonresident Seminar Program is underway. Seminar meetings are held weekly starting in August and run until mid-June 2004. The AWC Nonresident Studies Seminar Program is open to active duty, National Guard and Reserve colonels, lieutenant colonels and lieutenant colonel-selectees, or their equivalents, of any component of the U.S. Armed Forces and civilian employees, GS/GM-13 or above. Eight people are required to form a seminar. Students with term credit from other editions may also enroll and should check with an AWC faculty advisor for details.

For students who cannot take advantage of the seminar program, the correspondence program is also available for immediate enrollment. Correspondence students have six months to complete each term in the three-term core program with the required elective completed sometime during this 18-month period.

Applications are available at: www.maxwell.af.mil/au/awc/ns/ns-enroll.htm. Bring completed applications to Education Services in Bldg. 558 or call 536-3618 for assistance or additional information.



NEWS briefs

IRB annual briefing

In accordance with federal regulations an annual briefing is required for all investigators conducting research on human subjects or using data from medical or personnel databases. Military personnel, civilians and contractors who desire to conduct, fund or collaborate in research at Brooks, or with any other government or civilian institution, are required to attend. Briefings are scheduled for Sept. 9 and 25 from 8 to 10 a.m. and Sept. 11 and 23 from 1 to 3 p.m. Questions may be directed to Jane Marquardt at 536-4113 or Col. Harry Marden at 536-4466.

Motorcycle Riders' Club rally

The Brooks City-Base Motorcycle Riders' Club is looking for prospective members to join. An inaugural motorcycle rally from Brooks to historic Bandera is scheduled for Aug. 31. Interested motorcycle enthusiasts should meet in the parking lot of Bldg. 704, the old BX, at noon and be ready to ride out by 12:30 p.m. All licensed/insured motorcycle operators with street-legal motorcycle models are welcome to attend. Brooks Riders' Club rallies are open to all Brooks personnel, including active duty, reservists, DoD civilians, friends and family members. All makes and models of motorcycles are welcome. Rallies are planned for every other Sunday, weather permitting. Contact Staff Sgt. Caeser Velez at 536- 8490 for more information.

Comptrollers luncheon

The American Society of Military Comptrollers luncheon is scheduled for Aug. 26 at the Fort Sam Houston Officer's Club. The social begins at 11 a.m. and lunch is served at 11:30 a.m. Col. Dave Weinberg, Comptroller at Headquarters Air Education and Training Command will speak. For tickets call Kathy Pouliis at 536-2501 or email katherine.pouliis@brooks.af.mil by Aug. 20.

New state laws on cell phone use

Beginning Sept. 1 new rules apply to the use of cell phones in vehicles. In accordance with Texas House Bill 281, operators may not use a telephone in a vehicle unless the vehicle is stopped or the phone is used without either of the operators hands. An offense is a misdemeanor but offenders may receive a fine of \$25-\$100.

Common access cards

Brooks has authorized the mass issuance of the Common Access Card to military, DoD civilians and contractors. The card enables you to digitally sign documents and messages and identify yourself to gain access to information systems. The schedule below is broken down by organization. The schedule is subject to change depending on the issuance and completion of each organization. Contact the Military Personnel Flight Customer Service section at 536-1845 for details.

- AFMOA/AFMSA: through Aug. 15
- AFRL: Aug. 18 -29
- AFCEE: Sept. 2 -12
- 311th Human Systems Wing: anytime

Altitude subjects

Altitude subjects are needed to help provide F-22 pilots, high altitude parachute personnel, high altitude reconnaissance pilots and astronauts with adequate equipment and procedures. Several research protocols are being conducted at the High Altitude Protection Laboratory at Brooks to accomplish this mission. Hypobaric (altitude) chamber test subjects can earn \$150 per month for participating in at least one session per month. Each subject must meet Air Force body fat or height/weight standards, be a non-smoker for at least two years, be between 18 and 50 years of age, and be able to pass an appropriate physical exam. Contact Heather Alexander at 536-3440 or Jim Carlile at 536-3546 for more information.

Centrifuge subjects

The Air Force Research Laboratory Biodynamics and Protection Division is in need of active duty volunteers between the ages of 18 and 50 years and able to pass the equivalent of a flying class exam. Volunteers will participate in several studies to help in the development of safe life support equipment, protocols and procedures for Air Force aircrew in wartime and peacetime environments. Subjects may earn \$150 hazardous duty pay per month. Contact Suzanne DeLaCruz at 536-6258 for details.

Sleep subjects

The Chronobiology and Sleep Laboratory at Brooks needs volunteers for a number of ongoing sleep research studies. Interested Air Force and civilian personnel who meet the necessary qualifications are eligible to receive compensation starting at \$10 per hour. Contact Katy Ramsey at 536-3616 for additional information, or visit the Web site at: www.ntiinc.com and link to "studies."



BROOKS

SPOTLIGHT

Things to do around Brooks

By Jan McMahon
Brooks Services Marketing Office
536-5475

Brooks Club

Bldg. 204, 536-3782

Take advantage of Family Night at the Brooks Club. Bring the entire family Aug. 19 and enjoy a Mexican Buffet or an Italian Buffet Aug. 26. Adults pay \$4 and children 6-10 years, pay only \$2. Children under 6 eat free. Family Night is held every Tuesday from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.

The Boar's Head Lounge is open Monday through Thursday from 4 to 8:30 p.m. and Fridays from 4 to 10 p.m. Stop by the Pub for dinner Tuesday through Friday from 4 to 8 p.m.

Sidneys is open Fridays from 3 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.

Family child care

Bldg. 1154, 536-2041

If you enjoy working with children and are interested in having your own business and making money, family childcare may be for you. Responsible adults are needed to provide quality childcare in government quarters and peace of mind to working parents in the Brooks Community. Persons providing childcare in their homes for more than 10 hours per week must be licensed. Unlicensed childcare is a violation of base regulations and may result in the loss of base housing privileges. Authorized providers have the program's logo displayed in their windows.

Licensing procedures for childcare providers involve several simple steps. To get started stop by the Family Child Care Office in Bldg. 1154, or call Family Child Care Coordinator Jeanie Smith at 536-2041.

Golf Course

Bldg. 821, 536-2636

There's still time to take advantage of the August Specials in the Pro Shop. Receive a 10 percent discount on all caps and wind shirts. Purchase \$200 or more and receive a free round of golf.

Premiere Designs

Bldg. 705, 536-2120

Premiere Designs offers laser engraving, framing packages, business cards, presentation gifts, shadow boxes, flag boxes and many consignment items. Imagination is the key to a creative one-of-a-kind presenta-

tion. We create plaques with floating Texas, Texas flag or any item that has special meaning to the person retiring or departing Brooks. Let's put our heads together and present a gift that can't be matched. Mention your ideas when you place your order. We also do laser engraving for \$4.05 per letter and camera-ready logos for \$2.50. Premiere Designs offers Framing Packages that consist of a metal frame, mat, glass, backing and engraved plate. Price is based on the frame size. Orders can be emailed to: Rebecca.Estrada@brooks.af.mil.

Health and Fitness Center

Bldg. 940, 536-2188

Meet the commanders at the Health and Fitness Center every Thursday morning at 6:30 a.m. for a walk/run. Military and civilian members of the Brooks community are encouraged to participate. Participants receive a Commanders' Fitness Club T-shirt after participating four times. Additional prizes are offered for other sessions. Sign-up or get more information at the center.

Swimming Pool

Bldg. 710, 536-3744

The swimming pool is open. Purchase a season pass and visit any day of the week. The pool is open Monday-Friday from 11 a.m. -1 p.m. for adult lap swim and 1-7 p.m. Monday-Thursday for open swim. Weekend hours are 1-6 p.m. Friday, Saturday, Sunday and holidays. Pool parties can be scheduled for \$30 per hour through the head lifeguard. Contact the Youth Center staff at 536-2515 or stop by Bldg. 470 for in

formation on swimming lessons.

Base Library

Bldg. 705, 536-2634

August is the time our thoughts turn to school. Remember to visit the library for ideas on science projects, research tools and books for book reports. We also have databases for those in-depth papers you must write.

If you're driving to your vacation spot this summer, don't forget to check out books on CD and audiocassette to keep the family entertained during the trip. Call or stop by for a list of the many selections.

The "Books are Fun" book sale is back by popular demand. Come select from a variety of books, gifts and music selections at discounted prices. The sale is scheduled for Aug. 27 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Aug. 28 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cash, checks and major credit cards are accepted.

Outdoor Recreation

Bldg. 1154, 536-2881

Time is running out to sign up for the Labor Day weekend trip to the Dallas area. A bus is scheduled to depart Brooks Aug. 30 at 9 a.m., arriving at the Knights Inn in Arlington at 1:30 p.m. Guests register and have free time until 4 p.m., then dinner from 7 to 9 p.m. at Medieval Times for an authentic medieval feast while knights on horseback do battle. August 31 begins with a 9 a.m. bus ride to Six Flags over Texas. The bus will leave the theme park at 5 p.m. for the return trip to San Antonio. The trip is \$125 per person, all inclusive. Call 536-2881 for details.



Silvera

Q&A

FULL NAME:
1st Lt. Antonio M. Silvera

DUTY TITLE, ORGANIZATION:
Deputy Acquisition and Environmental Planning, 311 Human Systems Wing Plans and Programs Office

WHAT IS MY JOB?:
Implement and manage the Human Systems Integration program.

BIRTHDAY:
Oct. 10, 1966

HOMETOWN:
North Babylon, New York

FAMILY STATUS:
Married with two daughters, one son and a grand daughter

NICKNAME:
Tony

MOTTO:
"Always try to smile and be happy because things could always be worse."

INSPIRATIONS:
My parents

HOBBIES:
Football, raquetball and eating

PET PEEVE:
Snobby, rude and arrogant people

BOOK(S) AT BEDSIDE:
Lincoln on Leadership

I JOINED THE MILITARY BECAUSE:
I wanted to travel in Europe and earn a bachelor's degree.

FIVE-YEAR GOAL:
To earn my Master's degree and 'master' the acquisition system.

ULTIMATE GOAL:
Retire from the Air Force and work for the NFL corporate office in mid-town Manhattan.

IF I WON THE LOTTERY I'D:
Pay off my families bills, retire my wife, save extra money and continue to work.

FAVORITE MUSIC:
Soft rock

MY GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT:
is earning my commission.

MY MOST PRIZED POSSESSION:
is my faith and my family.

Feature

LT enjoys life, people

By Rita Boland

Staff Writer

A wave of rolling laughter followed the two men as they passed by the exhibitors' booths at a conference in Nashville, Tenn. One man, an Air Force First lieutenant, walked on by as if nothing out of the ordinary were occurring. The other man looked around, puzzled, trying to figure out why everyone was chuckling.

From across the room a woman approached the tandem and asked:

"Excuse me, do you know have a sticker on your butt?"

First Lt. Antonio Silvera lost it, cracking up, as his friend and colleague Adrian Salinas pulled an orange warning sticker off the back of his pants.

"I was telling her not to tell him," Silvera said, waving his arms over his head. "The exhibitors, they were rolling."

Salinas, who placed the sticker on his briefcase to remind him of the incident, also laughed as he recalled the incident. "He's a prankster," Salinas said of Silvera, the man who put the sticker on his posterior in the first place.

Indeed, Silvera is a prankster. During one of his other escapades, he put lipstick on the receiver of a telephone so the user had red marks on his face. Another time, he put tape over the end of the receiver by the user's mouth, making his voice unintelligible to the person on the other end, forcing the user to raise his voice higher and higher.

"He kept yelling into the phone," Silvera said, still cracking up as he recalls the prank.

Silvera doesn't just dish out humiliation, though, he takes his slams in turn. During the 2003 NBA playoffs, Silvera bet the other members of his office that the New Jersey Nets, his favorite team, would defeat the San Antonio Spurs. He lost.

For payment, his coworkers converted his cubicle into a Spurs shrine, hanging balloons and ribbons among the many Spurs signs, spurs articles, Spurs posters, Spurs everything.

"If you play, you pay," Silvera said.

He enjoys the camaraderie, though, and the self-described happy-go-lucky man realizes all the joking builds good relationships.

"That's how you have fun," Silvera said. "You got to make work fun."

While Silvera explained his office



Photo by Staff Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez Jr.

has a lot of practical jokers, he derives the most happiness from the joviality.

"I usually like to smile and laugh," Silvera said. "I probably have the loudest voice of everyone here."

His relationships reflect Silvera's easy-going nature. People continually stop by his cubicle or converse with him the hall, each getting a laugh and grin from Silvera's upbeat personality.

"Everything in this world, the bottom line is people skills," he said.

Fortunately for Silvera, he possesses plenty of those skills and, as an extrovert, he loves to be around people to boot. His tour at Ramstein Air Base, Germany was one of his favorite assignments, especially because of the close relationships he built with the other Americans on the base.

"What was really great was the camaraderie that you have with the people," he said. "You're close. You get together."

Silvera traveled around Europe during his stay in Germany, taking advantage of the opportunities from the Tours and Travel office to see the continent. He also took advantage of his situation to indulge one of his favorite pastimes, eating.

"The food was fantastic," Silvera said. "The beer."

Recently, Silvera cut back on his food intake, he eats three meals a day with no snacks, but he still relishes his nourishment and especially values Mexican and Italian cuisine.

"I just love food," he said.

Though Silvera has an unquenchable lust for life, he doesn't shirk responsibility or duty. He entered the Air Force to take advantage of the educational opportunities and after 10 years of work, earned his bachelor's degree in business. A graduate of the Community College

Brooks Personality PROFILE

of the Air Force before moving on to a four-year university, Silvera spoke at a recent graduation ceremony for the CCAF.

"I talked about (my) experience," he said. "I knew what they were going through."

Silvera encourages everyone to take advantage of the educational privileges the military offers.

"I think (education) is very important," he said. "It opens more doors."

When Silvera earned his degree, he knew he wanted to pursue a commission. At the time, he was serving in the Air National Guard in an active duty slot. After taking the Air

Force Officers Qualifying Test the first time, he put off taking it again. "I sort of let the test scare me," Silvera said.

A colonel at Silvera's base knew of his desire to become an officer and served as the impetus Silvera needed. The colonel asked him: "What are you doing everyday to ACHIEVE instead of get your goal?"

Silvera worked for about eight months, studying for the test, before driving three hours to another Air Force installation to take the exam. "When I got my scores back I was so psyched that I had passed it," he said.

Then, Silvera had to make a serious decision. He had the chance to take a great job in acquisitions with the Active Duty Air Force. The position would open up many doors in the civilian world for him after retirement. However, since he was in the guard, if he washed out of Officer Training School, he could have suffered serious repercussions.

"In order to go to OTS I had to separate completely," Silvera said. "If I didn't make it I might have got nothing. I might not have gotten my retirement."

He mustered all his courage and dedication and decided to reach for the goal he'd had for so long.

"I just focused on I was going to make it," Silvera said. "(My family and I) knew it was a risk — but what in life isn't?"

He did make it and now he tries to impart the same support and encouragement he got to the troops and that's part of the reason he wanted to be an officer in the first place.

"You have the greatest opportunity to affect and help people," Silvera said.

They just better watch out that when Silvera pats their backs in encouragement, he isn't holding a sticker.



Russian Czar's kin survive World War II, augur U.S./Air Force careers at USAFSAM

(Editor's Note: Two Romanov family members who are kin to Russia's last imperial leader, Czar Nicholas II, left Europe for America to forge successful civil service careers as U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine medical translators. Concluding the series, part III examines their experiences in Nazi-occupied Europe and their subsequent new life in the U.S.)

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

The seemingly idyllic life that Roman De Johnson and his daughter Tamara Boubel enjoyed while residing in a series of posh Italian Riviera hotels masked a feeling of uneasiness that existed in Fascist Italy where they lived from the late 1920s through the 1940s.

De Johnson, second cousin to Czar Nicholas II of Russia, had immigrated to Italy four years after Benito Mussolini had come to power as dictator. Having lost all his possessions during the Russian Revolution, De

Johnson built a new life and career in an adopted country that had also experienced a dramatic transformation from a monarchy to a totalitarian regime.

"My father was denounced as anti-Fascist," recalls his 82-year-old daughter Tamara Boubel, a retired USAFSAM medical translator. She said these baseless accusations were made at the beginning of World War II in 1939 when De Johnson served as general manager of the Imperial Palace Hotel in Portofino.

Italy's Axis alliance with Nazi Germany had sparked suspicions among

Mussolini's Fascist Party about foreigners living there, especially those who had aristocratic blood. Despite these accusations and other unsubstantiated charges, De Johnson, nevertheless, conducted himself with poise and civility.

He was a man of uncommon courage and unshakeable resolve who was equally accomodating to all people, regardless of their political persuasion or social standing.

"He treated everyone equally, from royalty to servants," Boubel said.

Having survived Communist purges, De Johnson inherently understood the consequences of his actions affecting the safety of his family. His reputation as a hospitable hotel manager remained unscathed despite an incident in 1932 when his daughter instigated a playful, but violent confrontation with a hotel guest who later became an infamous Nazi leader.

"I was 12 when I spanked Goering," Boubel recalls about her encounter with Adolph Hitler's future air marshall, Hermann Goering. "He was wearing civilian clothes. My father didn't know who he was," Boubel remembers about Goering.

To her, their guest seemed no more important than Pope Pius XII, Queen Elena of Italy and countless other leaders that she and her father had met.

De Johnson discovered that Goering was a man of some influence, for he had requested that the hotel place a telephone call to the son-in-law of Victor Emmanuel III, King of Italy. Years later, De Johnson would be knighted by the Italian king for his contributions to hotel tourism.

De Johnson introduced Goering to his daughter.

"He smiled, then in German he said, 'Oh, I kept you from your father. Uncle Goering deserves a spanking for that,'" recalls Boubel, saying that she obliged him. Goering would later mastermind the German Air Force Blitzkrieg against England that included V-1 and V-2 flying rocket bomb attacks. Condemned to death by hanging at the Nuremberg war crimes trials, Goering committed suicide in his prison cell by swallowing cyanide.

By 1943, the German Army had retreated north near where De Johnson managed the L'Aquila Hotel. "The Allies were pushing them back. At night we could hear the sound of B-29s overhead. My father and mother left the hotel because they were afraid of the bombers. I stayed there (for awhile) to run the (hotel) café," explained Boubel. Sicilian soldiers sought refuge there, asking Boubel to hide them from the Germans.

"The Germans treated us well," she said.

"We found ourselves in the middle of this thing (war) when the Germans occupied L'Aquila for nine months."

De Johnson's diplomacy and family history helped save L'Aquila from German retribution.

"The Germans had imposed a 10 p.m. curfew. Anyone who violated it was shot," she recalls, noting, "Not one person was shot during the German occupation."

She credits her father's relationship with the aristocratic German Army commandant. De Johnson's contributions to hotel tourism.



Courtesy photos

The U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine father/daughter team of Roman DeJohnson, seated right, and Tamara Boubel with foreign officers attending classes at Brooks, circa 1960s.

helped the situation, along with several bottles of cognac delivered to the German leader.

After the war, DeJohnson knew his family's future was in America. They immigrated to the U.S. in 1948.

A year later, De Johnson, who was fluent in several languages, began his Air Force civil service career as a technical translator for the School of Aviation Medicine at Randolph Air Force Base.

Boubel joined her father at Randolph when she became a USAFSAM medical translator in 1951. She later became a foreign training officer in the Office of Medical Translation.

"Father and I worked translations with international students. My father started the international program (at USAFSAM)," Boubel said.

De Johnson also contributed to scientific research by translating foreign scientific papers, articles and reports.

He helped compile technical data, written by former German scientists who worked for the U.S. after WWII as part of the "Operation Paper Clip" program, into the two-volume German Aviation Medicine published by Air University at Maxwell AFB, Ala.

De Johnson retired in 1964 at age 75. Boubel retired in 1984.

Together they left a legacy of service founded on the philosophy they subscribed to: "I have room for one more friend, and he is every man."



Future Air Force civil servants and Brooks employees Roman DeJohnson and his daughter Tamara Boubel lived at the Imperial Hotel in Portofino, Italy.

Showtime doesn't start at midnight for Brooks hoopsters

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Before most roosters can 'cockle' their 'doodle-do,' these "early birds" are spreading their wings with more gusto than a yawning night owl at lunchtime. As the morning fades into midday, many of them remain in full flight at the fitness center hardcourt where their seemingly boundless energy is never out of bounds.

A growing number of Brooks devotees to morning and noontime basketball appear to be just as passionate about and committed to playing the game as school age youngsters who've overcome insomnia through midnight hoop league participation.

"It's a great way to get some morning exercise and to help keep the weight off. I've been able to drop five pounds," admits Lt. Col. Craston Artis, Brooks Sports Advisory Council chairman who 18 months ago helped found what was originally nicknamed the "Geriatrics League."

The 53-year-old Artis said most morning players are between the ages



Photo by Rudy Purificato

Lunchtime hoop league teams play full court basketball, unlike the morning teams, who play two games at a time, cross court. Both the morning and lunchtime leagues are open to interested base personnel. The lunchtime league's season ends Sept. 4 but the morning league plays continuously.

of 35 and 55. "We start playing at 6 a.m. We usually play ten games until about 8 a.m.," he said, noting that these contests are held two at a time on cross courts, compared to the lunchtime league that plays full court. Each game lasts 15 minutes or until a team scores 11 points.

Since its inauguration, the morning hoop crowd has attracted increasing numbers of younger players. "Younger players from the base team have come out to play, including Colby

Benjamin. Anybody can join us," said Tim 'Shug' Martin, fitness center specialist who is an early bird charter member. He explained, "We're self-regulating. There are no refs, no cursing, no bullying and no rough stuff. There are also no restrictions to who plays, Martin noted, saying that two women are morning regulars.

A wall-mounted clipboard inside the gym next to the doors serves as the informal registration for players who show up for the morning games held

Local slugger ends Army bid for 'tripleheader' win at Brooks

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

A Brooks intramural softball power hitter who also plays for the Lackland AFB varsity squad dramatically ended the All-Army team's bid to sweep a 'tripleheader' against the Warhawks during a first-of-its kind tournament held at Brooks on Aug. 5.

Brooks fitness center specialist Rob Collins helped his team salvage a 'bloodily' fought contest when his line drive abruptly ended the third game with Lackland on top 8-3.

The All-Army team, playing at Brooks for the first time, had twice defeated Lackland in what was originally scheduled as a doubleheader. Army head coach Vic Rivera requested that a third game be played as the ball began to carry farther with the setting sun.

"I came up in the bottom of the fourth inning of the third game and hit a liner that hit the seam of the infield grass. The ball bounded up and hit the second baseman in the face. There was blood everywhere," recalls Collins, who said the Army coach asked that the game be stopped to prevent further injuries to his squad. In an earlier game, an Army player had broken a finger when sliding into third base.

"We did our job. We gave them good competition," Collins said, referring to

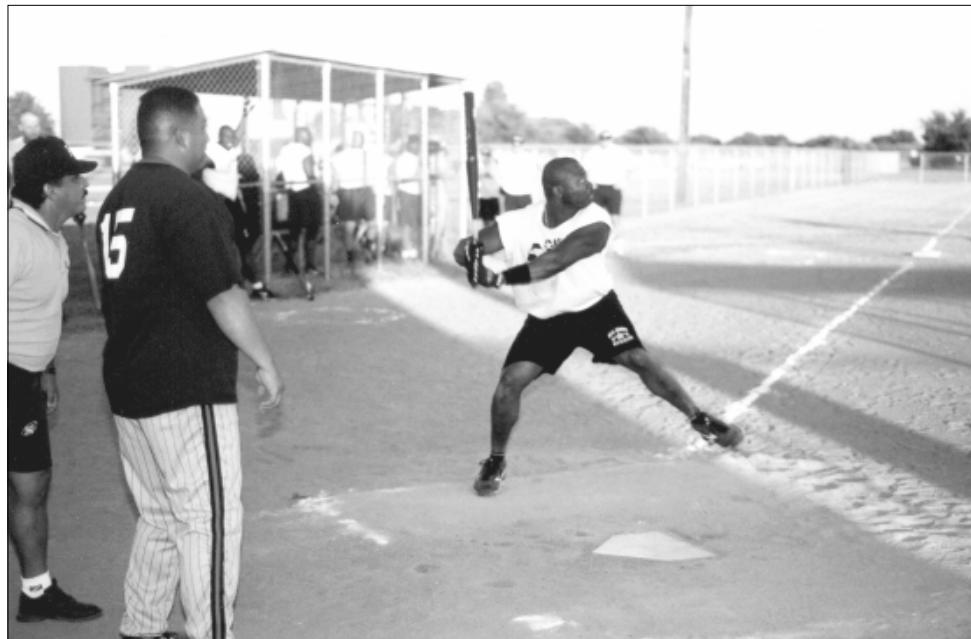


Photo by Rudy Purificato

An All-Army Team slugger awaits a pitch that he launched over the fence during the second of three games played against Lackland Air Force Base at Brooks recently.

the Army team's request to play local military varsity squads to help them evaluate talent. Collins noted, "This was their annual summer camp to pick the All-Army softball team that will compete in the All-Armed Forces tournament at Eglin AFB, Fla., Aug. 23."

Brooks was selected over Lackland as the venue for the games because the outfield fences here are farther, Collins explained. "The Lackland field is too small with the fences (measuring) 280 feet (from home plate)," said Collins. Except for right field which is 297 feet down the line, Brooks softball field No. 1's outfield fences are 300 feet to left and center field. The All-Armed Forces tournament field at Eglin features an outfield fence that is 315 feet from home plate, comparable to Yankee Stadium's right field 'short porch' where baseballs, not softballs, are often launched for home runs.

"This team of 15 and two coaches is what we will take to the Armed Forces tournament. We made the final cut at

Fort Sam Houston. Seven Army posts are represented on the team, but only one from Texas who is stationed at Fort Bliss," said Rivera, a Sergeant Major who is the All-Army team's first-year head coach.

Collins believes this year's All-Army squad is not as talented as last year's squad which shared the All-Armed Forces championship with Air Force.

"I don't think they are as good as last year's team, but they are more energetic and I like their team unity," Collins said.

The Army squad's chemistry was evident throughout the Brooks tournament when the players shouted in unison "put one on the board" every time a teammate hit a homer.

As for Lackland, the tripleheader here was their tuneup for the United States Specialty Sports Association's World Series that will be played later this month in Panama City, Fla. Lackland is the defending USSSA World Series champions.

every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. "We have had as many as 28 players," said Artis.

Referring to the lunchtime league, he added, "It gives a lot of the younger guys who need organization an opportunity to work as a team." The league, which started play Aug. 5, features five teams of eight players each, referees and official scorers.

Co-founded by fitness center director Roy Conatzer and Artis, the lunchtime basketball league was established a few years ago. After a short hiatus, it was reinstated last week due, in part, to the growing popularity of lunchtime pickup games and morning basketball.

"Each team plays everybody in the league twice. Teams are assigned numbers instead of names," said Martin, explaining that military, civilians, retirees, dependents and contractors are eligible to participate.

The lunchtime league's season ends Sept. 4. The playoffs begin Sept. 9 with the championship game scheduled for Sept. 11. The lunchtime champions will be given the choice of a trophy or T-shirts, Martin said.

As for morning hoop, there is no season. "We will play morning ball indefinitely," Martin said.

Early bird hoopsters who PCS, separate from the Air Force or retire are given a going away keepsake.

"We give them a (basket)ball signed by everybody," Martin said.

Rudolph.Purificato@brooks.af.mil

Brooks varsity hoop teams' open tryouts slated for Aug. 27

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Open tryouts for both men's and women's varsity basketball teams is scheduled for Aug. 27 at 3 p.m. at the Brooks Fitness Center. The tryouts are the only ones for the 2003-2004 hoop season that begins in October.

According to Hosea Talbert, who will coach both teams, this is the first time in several years that open tryouts have been held to pick the base hoop squads. Former varsity players will compete for positions on the teams along with newcomers. Active duty and reserve members are encouraged to attend the tryouts.

"At the end of the tryouts I will let everyone know who has made the teams," said Talbert, who coached the men's varsity squad last year. Robert Garcia, who coached the Brooks women's varsity team, separated from the Air Force.

Talbert said he decided to hold open tryouts to evaluate talent collectively, rather than assembling last year's team and then filling holes by recruiting players from intramural teams.

"It's easy to create a winning team, but it's hard to create a winning program. We're going to be competitive from now on," he said.

Talbert, a Brooks fitness center specialist, was given the responsibility for redeveloping a basketball program that hasn't been successful since the Larry Glover era. Glover, who coached the Brooks men's varsity team for four years before he PCS'd to Europe three years ago, built the base squad into one of the top three Air Force Materiel Command tournament teams.

Talbert plans to have Brooks compete in a military league consisting of Texas-based teams starting in late October.



RAGBRAI great Air Force recruiting tool

By Rita Boland

Staff Writer

Adage says everyone in the Air Force is a recruiter. For one week each year, about 100 members of the Air Force family take that message to heart.

Members of the Air Force Team Aim High participate in the seven-day Register's Annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa (RAGBRAI), riding across the state in Air Force garb. The team wears Team Aim High jerseys, socks and shorts while riding, trying to peak interest in other riders and citizens in towns along the way. In the evening, after the day's ride, Team Aim High wore Air Force T-shirts.

"The recruiting part of it, I think is great," said Capt. Michael Jacobson, the Military Equal Opportunity Officer on Brooks and a participant in this year's race. "Civilians get to talk to a lot of different Air Force people about different jobs."

The 31st annual RAGBRAI began July 20 and ended July 26. Between 10,000-15,000 people from across the country and from other nations participate in RAGBRAI each year. Jacobson talked to a variety of people about the Air Force, from high school students to those interested in military information for family members.

The 90 Team Aim High members

“ *The recruiting part of it, I think is great. Civilians get to talk to a lot of different Air Force people about different jobs.* **”**

Capt. Michael Jacobson
Military Equal Opportunity Officer

who rode this year, 10 others had to cancel for deployment or personal reasons, divided into camps according to the bases they came from. Ten bases or regions participated. Jacobson's group combined members of several installations.

"It was actually more of a San Antonio/South Texas team," he said.

Though the Aim High Team, broken down into their respective camps, spends the evenings together, they ride on their own during the day, giving the Air Force more exposure.

"They see us," Jacobson said. "We're very visible. We get very spread out."

At their camps, the team hung a sign that identified the Air Force and said, "We're hiring."

Jacobson, who hails from Sumner, Iowa, and watched RAGBRAI pass through his hometown in earlier years, usually rides mountain bikes, not street models. However, he and another airman at Lackland Air Force Base looked for an opportunity to participate in a big ride, and found Team Aim High. Air Force personnel who want to ride in the recruiting effort



Courtesy photo

Capt. Michael Jacobson, Military Equal Opportunity Officer at Brooks, far right, rides with Team Aim High, a group of Air Force personnel who participated in the seven-day Register's Annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa. The team, dressed in Air Force garb, talks to civilians along the way about the Air Force and its opportunities.

must obtain their commander's approval for Permissive Temporary Duty.

"I think it does a lot of good for the Air Force," Jacobson said.

Team Aim High began nine years ago, when a team from Offutt AFB, Neb., rode in RAGBRAI. They enjoyed the experience so much that they continued to participate annually and many who made a permanent change of station returned each year to ride.

The team now has 100 slots and many airmen take part in the event more than once.

"It was a great time," Jacobson said. "I hope to do it again next year."

Jacobson said most members of the South Texas coalition plan to bike RAGBRAI again next year.

Though people of all ages and skills ride in RAGBRAI, the distance involved requires physical stamina. Riders average more than 50 miles a day.

The Navy and Army also have recruiting teams who bicycle in RAGBRAI. Any military member who wants more information can visit the Team Aim High Web site or contact Capt. Jacobson.



Services wins intramural golf league crown

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

The 311th Mission Support Group Services golf team won the Brooks intramural golf league championship July 31 by finishing first with a 23-5 regular season record. The championship is the second in three years for Services, which also won the league title in 2001.

As league champs, Services is the number one seed in the post-season tournament that concludes this week.

Also advancing to the post season playoffs are the Air Force Institute for Operational Health, the 311th Communications Squadron and the Air Force Research Laboratory, which finished the regular season in second, third and fourth place, respectively.

Teams not advancing to the base championship tourney are the Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence and the 311th Human Systems Program Office. Services, which features many veteran golfers, was in first place throughout the season.

"Every week we fielded a quality squad. While that doesn't guarantee anything, there were very few teams lucky enough to consistently have (at

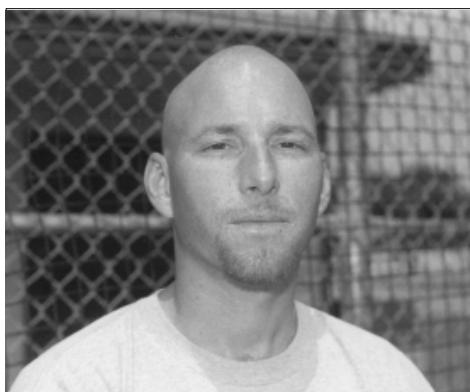
least) three quality players," said Rob Collins, a Services team member.

His teammates include Jose Valadez, Jimmy Connell, Bob Hager, Rick Cone, John McClendon, Bubba Bretzke, Rudy Gonzales, and one of the Air Force's top golfers, Linda Jeffery, who is considered the female "Tiger Woods." Jeffery was unavailable for the base tournament because she is representing Brooks as a varsity squad member at the Air Force Materiel Command tourney at Kirtland AFB, N.M.

Last year, Jeffery won the AFMC women's division championship. She also helped the Air Force win a golf championship and the All-Armed Forces squad capture a world military title.

Collins said not having Jeffery for the base tourney will not have a profound effect on Services because of its player depth and experience.

"What has helped us out (throughout the season) is that we have eight experienced golfers. In match play we have quality and quantity," Collins said, referring to the squad's collective talent. He added, "Another thing that helps us is our 'homers,' teammates who play the Brooks course all of the time. They know every part of the course. It's like having home field ad-



“ Every week we fielded a quality squad. While that doesn't guarantee anything, there were very few teams lucky enough to consistently have (at least) three quality players. ”

Rob Collins
Services team member

vantage."

AFIOH also boasts a squad whose key players are familiar with the par 72 Brooks course.

Services competed against AFRL in the tourney's opening round, while AFIOH played the 311th Communications Squadron.

SPORTS SHORTS

Discounts available for Brooks golfers

Take 10 percent off selected merchandise at the Brooks Golf Course throughout the month of August. Brooks golfers who purchase \$200 worth of merchandise receive a complimentary round of golf.



Commanders' Fitness Club

Meet the Brooks commanders at the Health and Fitness Center every Thursday at 6:30 a.m. run/walk. Military and civilian personnel are encouraged to participate. Participants receive a Commanders' Fitness Club T-shirt after participating four times. Additional prizes are offered for other sessions. Sign up at the Fitness Center. Call 536-2188 for more information.



Air Force adds half-marathon, 5k 'fun run' to annual event

By Patrick Reilly

Air Force Marathon Office

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFMCNS) — This year's Air Force Marathon here will feature a 13.1-mile half-marathon and a 5Km — or 3.1-mile — race in addition to the full marathon and marathon relay team races during the Sept. 20 event.

The half-marathon race will be on a 13.1-mile loop-back course that will share the start and finish lines with the full marathon, according to Bob Brodless, Air Force Marathon director. Half-marathon and marathon relay participants will race alongside one another until the turnaround point just outside of Gate 15A, then the half-marathoners head back toward the finish line near the Air Force Museum.

Brodless said the half-marathon is geared toward those who have some road racing experience or those who have been conditioning for shorter races and want a new challenge. The marathon and half-marathon courses will feature aid stations at every mile that provide water, electrolyte replenishment, fruit, water-soaked sponges and first aid.

"Because the full and half-marathons are on the same course, the half-marathon racers will be able to use many of the same aid stations and enjoy the same festive atmosphere that the full marathoners do," said Cheryl Blom, Air Force Marathon volunteer coordinator.

The 5K race is the first of its kind in the history of the Air Force Marathon, Brodless said. He emphasized that marathon officials have received several applications for the 5K and many more are expected in the weeks to come.

"The 5K (race) is going to generate a lot of interest with runners who don't necessarily want to run the full 26.2-mile or 13.1-mile courses," said Brodless. "We're affectionately calling it our 'fun run.'"

Brodless also said this race will interest those who might not have had a chance to train rigorously enough to complete the half or full marathons, but still want to participate in the festivities. He added that the 5K would also be a great introduction to the world of competitive road racing.

Though the 5K participants won't receive a medal, their entry fee will get them a runner packet Brodless said is almost identical to the full and half marathoners, and relay team members. The packet includes an official Air Force Marathon T-shirt, patch and several coupons to local restaurants and businesses.

Packets have been well received by marathon participants in years past according to Brodless.

"The marathoners have always really loved the things that we typically include in the goodie bags, and we don't expect much of a change in the bags' contents or the racers' approval," he said.

The 5K's course will be separate from the marathon races, but will still share the start and finish line with the other races. The exact path the race will follow hasn't yet been determined, but it will be contained entirely within the base's Area B. Brodless said final approval for the course is expected within the month, and a course description will be posted on the marathon's Web site soon after.

A sports and fitness exposition, which will be open to the public, will be Sept. 18 and 19 at the Hope Hotel here. Participants will pick up their race packets there, which include

their timing chip, race T-shirts, numbered bibs, race patch, informational materials and more.

Brodless said race participants and other expo attendees can then visit vendor booths that will showcase running and fitness related items and services. Expo exhibitors from previous years include representatives from sunglass specialty shops, therapeutic muscle massage item vendors, running shoe and clothing retailers.

The marathon staff has already received dozens of applications for the new events and continues to take applications for both, as well as the full marathon and relay teams. Deadline to enter is Sept. 4.

The entry fee is \$50 for the marathon, \$35 for the half-marathon, \$180 for a marathon relay team and \$15 for the 5K fun run.

Brodless said there are still plenty of spots available for the full marathon, half marathon and 5K races, but slots for the marathon relay teams are dwindling fast.

Participants can also pay an additional \$10 for a ticket to the pasta dinner Sept. 19. Seating times for the dinner are 4 p.m., 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

For more information, contact the marathon office at DSN 787-4350, toll free at 1-800-467-1823 or commercial 937-257-4350, or visit the Air Force marathon's Web site at: www.afmarathon.wpafb.af.mil.

Brooks personnel who intend to participate in the annual Air Force Marathon are encouraged to contact the Discovery by email at: Discovery@brooks.af.mil and share their stories. An article featuring the completion times and personal accounts from Brooks personnel is scheduled to run following the event.

HAWC notes

Win the Losing Battle

The 3rd Annual Win the Losing Battle Weight Loss Competition is scheduled to begin Sept. 18. Get a team of friends or co-workers together and sign up now.

"Win the Losing Battle" is a 12-week weight loss competition, which combines competitive fun and lifestyle change. The program includes professional dietary and fitness counseling, confidential weekly weigh-ins, weekly newsletters, healthy food and dining lectures, team-based effort, goal setting, and gifts and prizes.

If you're 5 pounds or more over your ideal body weight and don't know exactly where to begin, this may be the answer. There is no better way to lose weight, learn healthy and nutritious eating habits, increase physical activities, and re-define your body, all while having a great time with friends and peers, actively coaching you along while hiking, biking, running, walking and winning with you.

Plan to attend an orientation/registration briefing Aug. 18 or 22 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Health and Wellness Center.

The competition is open to active duty personnel and their family members, DoD civilians and contractors.

Teams must have between five and 10 members to register and you must register to participate. Call 536-4292 for additional information.

Don't delay, your health is a terrible thing to WAIST!

Smoking cessation

Brooks Health and Wellness Center offers Quit Smart smoking cessation classes and one-on-one appointments to help stop smoking. Contact the staff at 536-4292 for additional information on class schedules or to schedule an appointment for individual counseling.